

**Empowering Learning** 

Dear Parent and Carer,

We are writing to update you on the Covid protocols and processes in place at Summerhill Academy following the changes to national testing and guidance on April 1.

The Government expectation is that we should all be learning to live with Covid and treat it the same as any other infectious disease, with a personal responsibility to prevent infection.

At Summerhill Academy, we are continuing to take responsible steps to ensure minimal ongoing disruption to our in-person teaching and learning by continuing our current Covid controls to:

- Ensure adequate ventilation and CO2 monitoring;
- Encourage enhanced handwashing/sanitising;
- Promote Catch It, Kill It, Bin It;
- Encourage take-up of vaccines for those eligible.

If your child is not well enough to be in school, they should not attend, as with any other illness.

Children and young people with mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough, who are otherwise well, can continue to attend their education setting.

Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people, where they can. They can come back to Summerhill Academy and resume normal activities when they no longer have a high temperature and they are well enough to attend.

All children and young people with respiratory symptoms should be encouraged to cover their mouth and nose with a disposable tissue when coughing and/or sneezing and to wash their hands after using or disposing of tissues.

The Government has advised that children and young people aged 18 and under should not be tested for Covid-19 unless directed to do so by a medical professional. If they have tested positive for Covid-19, they are advised to try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for three days, which is when they are most infectious. For adults, the guidance is five days.

Any children or young people currently off with Covid who are beyond day 3 can return if they are well enough to do so and do not have a high temperature. The requirement to provide negative tests to return has been removed.



Children and young people who live with someone who has a positive Covid-19 test result can continue to attend as normal if they are well enough and do not have a high temperature.

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Further information about the new Government guidance is available here <a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/people-with-symptoms-of-a-respiratory-infection-including-covid-19">https://www.gov.uk/guidance/people-with-symptoms-of-a-respiratory-infection-including-covid-19</a>

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us via the school office.

Kind Regards

C. Barratt

Chris Barratt

Principal